

not know the name Kneeland Youngblood, and until recently, he would have been satisfied with that fact. However, Youngblood recently decided to expose himself and his story to the greater Dallas community in order to inspire a new generation of leaders and entrepreneurs.

Kneeland Youngblood has found his success in founding Pharos Capital Group LLC. However, his career and life took many steps and progressions before he settled on this career. Youngblood was born in the segregated neighborhood of Galena Park in Houston. His father and mother struggled to make ends meet supporting Youngblood and his six siblings.

From these humble beginnings, Youngblood made his way to Princeton University, and then to UT-Southwestern Medical School. He began his career in Dallas in emergency medicine, and planned to climb his way up in the medical field, until his tastes changed.

Youngblood was integral in organizing a diverse group of young professionals who were fundraising for Anne Richard's initial gubernatorial campaign. During this successful period, Youngblood was exposed to the business community in a way that wetted his appetite. In the impressive and forward way he now operates his business, he approached powerful people in the business community and asked them for help in a career transition. He was forty.

Now, only twenty years later, he has founded Pharos Capital Group LLC, which operated a \$525 million institutional fund in 2014. He serves on several local boards, and recently became the first black member of the Dallas Country Club, where his father waited tables decades ago.

Mr. Speaker, more important to Youngblood than all of these successes, is the success of his family. He has six kids who between them went to Stanford, Harvard, Yale, or Princeton. Today, I want to honor the incredible path Kneeland Youngblood has travelled, and recognize him formally to allow him to serve as the example to young leaders and entrepreneurs he knows he is.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN DOWNS

##### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose commitment to the Corona, California community is truly exceptional. Next week, on January 21, 2016, John Downs will be honored as a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Corona Chamber of Commerce. John has dedicated himself to the Corona community.

John is the second generation owner of local business icon Downs Energy. The business was started in 1962 by John's father, Elvin Downs. In 1976, Downs Energy made the decision to launch a key lock operation to sell fuel around the clock to trucking companies. John works closely on the day-to-day operations with his wife Catherine.

John is also a devoted father and husband. He and his wife Catherine have two children, Sherry Downs Messner and Mike Downs.

John describes having his children follow in his footsteps as something that makes him smile.

John's tireless passion for his family and the community has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. I am proud to call John a friend, fellow community member and great American. Today, I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating John on achieving the Lifetime Achievement Award.

#### TRIBUTE TO GARY McCLANAHAN

##### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gary McClanahan upon his retirement from Central Campus in the Des Moines School System, where he served for 25 years.

Gary served as the director of the Central Campus for 18 years and spent 7 years as the school's supervisor of technology. Central campus is a career and technical education program that provides a diverse educational opportunity for students, from auto body repair to marine biology. Gary's commitment to excellence will be missed by all at Central Campus.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Gary on his retirement from the Des Moines Central Campus. It is because of dedicated Iowans like Gary that I'm proud to represent our great state. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Gary on this incredible milestone and wishing him nothing but the best in his retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on roll call no. 43, "yea."

#### TRIBUTE TO MARY LELIA ECKHART

##### HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a valued constituent of mine in the second district of Ohio. Mary Lelia Eckhart, known by her friends as Lelia, will soon celebrate her 100th birthday on March 22, 2016.

Lelia Eckhart was born into a large farming family in 1916 with six siblings, in Lewis County, Kentucky. Beginning to learn the skills of a homemaker from the age of eight, she quickly became an integral member of her large and loving family.

As her family began moving away, Lelia decided to join her sister in Portsmouth, Ohio during the Great Depression in the 1930s. As southern Ohio struggled along with the rest of the nation during the Depression, Lelia was soon in high demand by many families for her skills. Soon, Lelia was employed by the Bannon family of Portsmouth where she worked for nearly 60 years.

Lelia's significant talents include needlework of all types, from designing to tailoring her wardrobe, and her cooking abilities are legendary. When asked to reveal her secret to creating such great food, she faithfully replies "It tastes so good because I stirred it with my finger!"

Lelia developed many lasting friendships which remain to this day. Central to her life is her devotion to her faith. She worships to this day at Cornerstone Methodist Church, from which follows the guiding principles of her long and story-filled life.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 100th birthday of Lelia Eckhart.

#### TRIBUTE TO RITA SCHROEDER

##### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Rita Schroeder for being chosen for induction into the Southwestern Community College Athletic Hall of Fame as a coach. She will be inducted on January 23, 2016 in Creston, Iowa.

Rita was a 1982 graduate of Southwestern Community College and provided leadership to the Spartan volleyball program from 1984–2009. Under her guidance, the Spartans had a record of 704–382. They competed in national championships five times. Under Rita's leadership, each student-athlete was required to put school first, and during her tenure her teams received ten NJCAA team academic awards.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Rita for her well-deserved induction into the Southwestern Community College Athletic Hall of Fame. It is because of Iowans like Rita that I am proud to represent our great state in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Rita for this achievement and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

#### HONORING JACQUELINE ANN BERRIEN

##### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 13, 2016*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Jacqueline Ann Berrien, chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) from 2010 to 2014, who passed away on November 9, 2015, at the age of 53. I was privileged to know Jacqueline Berrien and to work with her here in the Congress.

A native Washingtonian, Jacqueline graduated from Oberlin College and Harvard Law